

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/729,204

Examiner

Shelley Self

Applicant(s)

THOMAS, ROGER

Art Unit

3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/28/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-5,8,9,11-18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

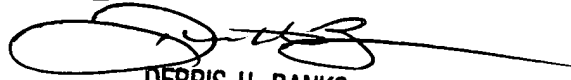
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 4/28/04;12/5/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on February 28, 2006 is sufficient to overcome the prior art reference and place the application in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-5, 8, 9 and 11-18 are allowed.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not disclose or fairly suggest a debris collection container for a planer comprising a *means for connecting comprising a first part including two pegs and a second part having a T-shaped slot, wherein one of the first part and the second part is mounted on the receptacle and the other of the first part and the second part is mounted on the cap* in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations as set forth in claims 11 and 18.

The prior art reference, Wang discloses a connector (80) having rails, connection plates (81) and grooves (801) such that the plates (81) are positionable within the grooves (801) of the rails (80) so as to connect the cap (fig. 4) to the receptacle (5). Further, Wang discloses that a cap (fig. 4) is connected to the receptacle by a fastening member (31, 33, 300). Wang does not disclose or fairly suggest *means for connecting comprising a first part including two pegs and a second part having a T-shaped slot, wherein one of the first part and the second part is mounted on the receptacle and the other of the first part and the second part is mounted on the cap*. Instead, Wang discloses that the means for connecting the cap to the receptacle is mounted on

Art Unit: 3725

the cap (fig. 4) with a flange (50) on the receptacle to correlate with the rails (80) and fastening means (33). Accordingly, Wang fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention as set forth in claims 11 and 18.

Neither the prior art alone nor any combination thereof discloses the claimed invention as set forth in claims 1 and 18. Therefore claims 1-18 are deemed allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shelley Self whose telephone number is (571) 272-4524. The examiner can normally be reached Mon-Fri from 8:30am to 5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached at (571) 272-4419. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular and After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

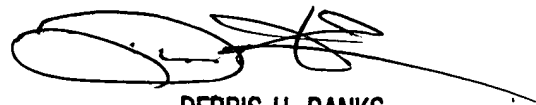
Art Unit: 3725

system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on accessing the Private

PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SSelf

May 15, 2006



DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700